The amendments above remove multiple dependencies to reduce costs, convert the use claims to the more conventional method of use format, and otherwise place the claims in better form for U.S. substantive examination.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NORRIS MCLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.

By ______________________________
Kurt G. Briscoe
Reg. No. 33,141

220 East 42nd Street
30th Floor
New York, New York 10017
Phone: (212) 808-0700
Fax: (212) 808-0700

MARK-UP SHOWING THE CHANGES MADE IN THE PREVIOUS CLAIM TO YIELD THE CLAIM AS AMENDED ABOVE

3. The backing material as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], wherein the overall styrene content in the polymer is less than 40% by weight, with particular preference from 3 to 35% by weight.

4. The backing material as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 3] **claim 1**, wherein the cold seal composition has a dynamic-complex glass transition temperature at a frequency of 0.1 rad/s of less than -30°C, preferably of less than -50°C, with very particular preference from -55°C to -150°C.

5. The backing material as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 4 **claim 1**, wherein the cold seal composition is applied partially and/or foamed with an inert gas.

6. The backing material as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 5] **claim 1**, wherein the cold seal composition is applied by halftone printing, thermal screen printing or gravure printing.

7. The backing material as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 6] **claim 1**, wherein the cold seal composition is applied in the form of polygeometric domes to the backing material.

8. The backing material as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 7] **claim 1**, wherein the cold seal composition is coated on the backing material with a coating weight of more than 3 g/m^2, preferably between 6 g/m^2 and 180 g/m^2, with very particular preference between 9 g/m^2 and 140 g/m^2.

9. The backing material as claimed in [at least one of the preceding claims] **claim 1**, wherein the ultimate tensile stress elongation of the backing material is less than 300%, preferably from 5

to 100%, from 50 to 150% or from 150% to 250%, with particular preference less than 30%, and/or the ultimate tensile stress strength is from 1 000 to 22 000 cN/cm.

10. The backing material as claimed in [at least one of the preceding claims] **claim 1**, wherein the bond strength of the coated backing material is between 0.4 N/cm and 3.0 N/cm.

11. The backing material as claimed in [at least one of the preceding claims] **claim 1**, wherein the pressure-sensitively adhesively coated backing material following application is enveloped or is provided with a wound contact material or padding.

12. The backing material as claimed in [at least one of the preceding claims] **claim 1**, wherein the pressure-sensitively adhesively coated backing material is sterilized, preferably by means of γ (gamma) radiation.

13. The [use of] **method of using** a backing material as claimed in [at least one of the preceding claims] **claim 1** for medical products, especially plasters, medical fixations, wound coverings, orthopedic or phlebological bandages, and dressings.

14. The [use of] **method of using** a backing material as claimed in [at least one of the preceding claims] **claim 1** for reversible technical fixations which are removable without damaging the substrate.